



Problem Solving Courts Committee

November 2, 2007

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Indiana Judicial Center, room 1373, 13th floor

Minutes

I. Welcome

Judge Surbeck called the meeting to order at 1:50 pm. Members present included Judge Blau, Judge Todd, Judge Christ-Garcia, Sheila Hudson and Don Travis. Others present included Jamie Bergacs, Cheri Harris and Mary Kay Hudson.

II. Review minutes of last meeting –August 3, 2007

Members reviewed and approved the minutes from the meeting held August 3, 2007.

III. Discussion of PSCC mission and structure

Judge Surbeck revisited the PSCC mission statement and identified issues for the committee to address in the coming year. These include developing a directory of PSC by type of court. Mary Kay Hudson will use the survey results from earlier this year and will develop this directory. Mary Kay Hudson reported that this will likely involve some follow-up to obtain additional information from some of the courts, but she will develop a draft for the committee's review in the next few weeks. Members also discussed developing a "skills catalog" to accompany the directory. Mary Kay Hudson will develop a draft for the committee's review when she sends out the draft directory.

Members also discussed developing a PSC website. Mary Kay Hudson reported that Jamie Bergacs has been working on developing the site content. Once Jane Seigel gives her approval on the content, IJC will forward the information along to JTAC to be published. Judge Surbeck stated that he would like for the committee minutes to be posted in the website within two weeks following the meeting. Minutes will be posted initially as a draft then as final once approved by the committee.

Judge Surbeck opened the discussion of the current subcommittee structure as it relates to the mission of the committee. Mary Kay Hudson reported that the drug court subcommittee was initially established under the Court Alcohol and Drug Program Advisory Committee. Mary Kay Hudson reported that now that drug courts are under the umbrella of the PSCC, it may be helpful establish different subcommittees to better serve the needs and the interest of the full committee.

Members discussed dissolving the drug court subcommittee and creating two new standing subcommittees: policy and education / training. The policy subcommittee would address issues related to legislation, hot topics, certification and rule-making. The education/training subcommittee would plan staff training events and develop public relations materials. Judge Blau reported that the drug court subcommittee members discussed this restructuring of the subcommittees at the morning meeting and were in support of it. Members discussed that it may make sense to develop a purpose statement for each subcommittee. **Judge Todd moved that the committee establish two standing committees for policy and education / training. Don Travis seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.**

Members present will serve on the subcommittees as follows:

Policy: Judge Blau, Judge Surbeck, Judge Todd, and Judge Christ-Garcia
Education: Don Travis, Sheila Hudson

Members not present will be asked to serve as follows:

Policy: Judge Johnson, Judge Trockman, Judge Brugnaux
Education: Judge Conn, Judge Witte, Judge Goff, Magistrate Cain, Paul Southwick

Current members of the drug court subcommittee will be encouraged to serve as members on one of the new subcommittees. Judge Hopper and Judge Niemeier (former drug court subcommittee members) will serve on the policy subcommittee. Members agreed that the committee may form work groups or task forces for special projects or to address issues outside of the scope of the subcommittees.

IV. Legislative agenda items

Legislative issues for PSC in the 2009 session will be discussed at the policy subcommittee meeting. Judge Blau reported that the drug court subcommittee identified a need to survey drug court judges and directors on possible legislative issues for the 2009 session. Mary Kay Hudson will issue a survey to judges and directors regarding PSC – related legislative initiatives for 2009. Mary Kay Hudson will issue the survey in the next 1-2 weeks. The survey will also ask the judges and directors to indicate whether they are willing to serve on a legislative workgroup.

V. 2008 PSC education and training

Judge Surbeck reviewed the PSC Workshop evaluation summary. Members discussed the transition from being drug court focused to PSC focused. Mary Kay Hudson reported that the comments and ratings on this workshop were consistent with previous IJC sponsored training events.

Training and education issues for PSC in 2008 will be discussed at the education / training subcommittee meeting.

VI. Drug court subcommittee update

See items III. and IV. for drug court subcommittee discussions related to committee structure and legislative issues. Judge Blau reported that the drug court subcommittee formed a task force to explore the possibility of adopting statewide performance measures for drug courts. The task force will consist of the drug court subcommittee members. The task force is scheduled to meet on Friday, January 25, 2008 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at IJC. IJC staff will coordinate the meeting and will invite the courts that participated in the NPC evaluation to attend the meeting and provide recommendations to the task force.

VII. Reentry court rules workgroup update

Judge Surbeck advised members that the reentry court rules workgroup continues to develop draft rules for reentry courts and that the workgroup will be field testing the most recent draft of the rules in operational reentry courts in the next few months which will include site visits to operational reentry courts. Judge Surbeck reported that the workgroup would coordinate these sites visits. Cheri Harris is in the process of updating the latest revision of the reentry court rules and will email the current version to the workgroup by November 12, 2007.

VIII. Schedule next meeting date

Committee members scheduled the following subcommittee and full committee meeting dates:

Education / training subcommittee	December 14, 2007 at 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Policy subcommittee	December 14, 2007 at 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Problem-Solving Courts Committee	January 18, 2008 at 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Members stated that they would like to include faith – based initiatives and programming in PSC on the agenda for the next policy subcommittee meeting.

Mary Kay Hudson reported that IJC will move the last week of 2007 to new office space located at 30 South Meridian Street (9th floor). As of right now, the December meetings will be held in the current IJC office space. If that changes, Mary Kay Hudson will notify members as soon as possible.

IX. Adjourn

Judge Surbeck adjourned the meeting at 3:45 pm.